

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

System and apparatus for determining a relationship between transportable or storable materials and plural transportation or storage modes for the materials. In a transportation system, placard rules that correlate placards, materials, and transportation or storage modes are pre-stored in a computer memory. Materials data is entered corresponding to a first predetermined material, as well as data corresponding to a predetermined transportation mode or a predetermined storage mode. One of the plurality of predetermined placards is selected in response to the materials data, the transportation or storage data, and the placard rules data. The transportable or storable material may be a hazardous material, and the placard rules therefore correspond to safety rules. In an apparatus aspect, an arrangement selects one of a plurality of placards. The arrangement has an input for facilitating entry of data corresponding to a first material, a classifications memory for storing classification data corresponding to a plurality of hazard classifications, an exceptions memory for storing exceptions data corresponding to a plurality of exceptions to the hazard classifications, at least one of the exceptions being selected in response to the input arrangement, a general rules memory for storing general rules data corresponding to the plurality of placards; and a processor for selecting the determinable one of the plurality of placards in response to the input arrangement, the classifications memory, the exceptions memory, and the general rules memory.